UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
WILLS, LAWRENCE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/700,205	REESE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LAWRENCE E. WILLS	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 January 2008*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,13-21 and 25-33* is/are pending in the application.
   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,13-21 and 25-33* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments, see page 5, filed 1/14/2008, with respect to the rejection(s) of

claim(s) 1-7, 13-19, and 25-31 under 35 USC 103 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new

ground(s) of rejection is made in view of US Patent Application No. 2002/0144257.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-3, 13-15, and 25-27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Tanimoto (US Patent 6,952,280) in view of Slick et al. (US Patent Application Pub No.

2004/0109568).

Regarding claim 1, Tanimoto'280 teaches a printer access control (i.e. designating unit in

column 3, line 9; number 3 in Fig.1) within a printer (number 2 in Fig.1) that is operable to:

receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization (i.e. S12 in Fig.2);

determine the policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in column 2, line 12) of the

requesting client computer (i.e. S13 in Fig. 2); authorization indicative of one or more printer

resources (particular paper supply means in column 2, line 11) available to client computers of

the determined policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in column 2, line 12); and

authorize a print job (i.e. S13 Yes condition in Fig. 2) received from the client computer to be

printed (i.e. S15 in Fig. 2) using one or more printer resources (particular paper supply means in column 2, line 11). However, Tanimoto'280 does not teach issue a security key to the client device or the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device and the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job (The printer's public key can be provided to users via any of a number of means including a public key infrastructure (PKI) or by a printer driver simply requesting the public key from the printer itself or from a secure print server. Once the printer's public key has been obtained, a printer driver uses the public key to encrypt a symmetric key, which is used to encrypt print data and transmits the encrypted print job to the printer. [0005]).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 2, Tanimoto'280 teaches granting full printing resource authorization (i.e. S26 in Fig. 4) to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain (i.e. S24 Yes in Fig. 4) and granting limited printing resource authorization (i.e. S27 in Fig. 4) to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain (i.e. S24 No and S25 No in Fig. 4). Tanimoto'280 fails to teach the issuing of a security key.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device ([0005])

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching

of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference

to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because

of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 3, Tanimoto'280 teaches issuing a security that is indicative of granting

greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a predetermined

policy domain (i.e. S13 Yes condition to S15 in Fig.2) than to client computers that are not

members of the predetermined policy domain (i.e. S13/S14 both No condition to S16 in Fig.2).

Tanimoto'280 fails to teach the issuing of a security key.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device ([0005])

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching

of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference

to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because

of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 13 and 25, Tanimoto'280 teaches a printer that is operable to: receive a

request from a client computer for printing resource authorization (i.e. S12 in Fig.2); determine

the policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in column 2, line 12) of the requesting

client computer (i.e. S13 in Fig. 2); authorization indicative of one or more printer resources

(particular paper supply means in column 2, line 11) available to client computers of the

determined policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in column 2, line 12); and

authorize a print job (i.e. S13 Yes condition in Fig. 2) received from the client computer to be

printed (i.e. S15 in Fig. 2) using one or more printer resources (particular paper supply means in

column 2, line 11). However, Tanimoto'280 does not teach issue a security key to the client

device or the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device and the issued security key

used by the client computer to encrypt the print job ([0005]).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching

of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference

to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because

of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 14 and 26, Tanimoto'280 teaches granting full printing resource

authorization (i.e. S26 in Fig. 4) to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy

domain (i.e. S24 Yes in Fig. 4) and granting limited printing resource authorization (i.e. S27 in

Fig. 4) to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain (i.e. S24 No

and S25 No in Fig. 4). Tanimoto'280 fails to teach the issuing of a security key.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device ()

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching

of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference

to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because

of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 15 and 27, Tanimoto'280 teaches issuing a security that is indicative of

granting greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a

predetermined policy domain (i.e. S13 Yes condition to S15 in Fig.2) than to client computers

that are not members of the predetermined policy domain (i.e. S13/S14 both No condition to S16

in Fig.2). Tanimoto'280 fails to teach the issuing of a security key.

Slick'568 teaches issue a security key to the client device ([0005])

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 reference and then given the well-established teaching

of Slick'568 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 reference

to include issuing and using keys to encrypt print jobs as taught by Slick'568 reference because

of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

3.   Claims 4-8, 16-19, and 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Tanimoto (US Patent 6,952,280) in view of Slick et al. (US Patent Application Pub No.

2004/0109568) as applied to claims 1,13, and 25 above, and further in view of Cunnagin (US

Patent 6,490,049).

Regarding claim 4, 16, 28 Tanimoto'280 in combination with Slick'568 fails to teach one printer resource includes the printing resource comprises color printing.

Cunnagin'049 teaches one printer resource includes the printing resource comprises color printing (i.e. the consumable supply may be selectively chosen as corresponding to ink, toner, paper, or time column 3, line 41).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Cunnagin'049 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include securing printer resources with keys as taught by Cunnagin'049 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 5, 17, 29 Tanimoto'280 in combination with Slick'568 fails to teach one printer resource includes printing print jobs over a specified page limit.

Cunnagin'049 teaches one printer resource includes printing print jobs over a specified page limit (i.e. the consumable supply may be selectively chosen as corresponding to ink, toner, paper, or time in column 3, line 41).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Cunnagin'049 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include securing printer resources with keys as

taught by Cunnagin'049 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing

applications.

Regarding claim 6, 18, 30 Tanimoto'280 in combination with Slick'568 fails to teach one

or more printer resources include specific print media, specific print media comprising at least

one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.

Cunnagin'049 teaches one or more printer resources include specific print media, specific

print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies

(i.e. the consumable supply may be selectively chosen as corresponding to ink, toner, paper, or

time in column 3, line 41).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-

established teaching of Cunnagin'049 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system

of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include securing printer resources with keys as

taught by Cunnagin'049 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing

applications.

Regarding claim 7, 19, 31Tanimoto'280 in combination with Slick'568 fails to teach one

or more printer resources include at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per

period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.

Cunnagin'049 teaches one or more printer resources include at least one of a maximum

cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time (i.e. the

consumable supply may be selectively chosen as corresponding to ink, toner, paper, or time in column 3, line 41).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Cunnagin'049 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include securing printer resources with keys as taught by Cunnagin'049 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

4.   Claims 8, 9, 20, 21, 32, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanimoto (US Patent 6,952,280) in view of Slick et al. (US Patent Application Pub No. 2004/0109568) as applied to claims 1, 13, and 25 above, and in further view of Kuroyanagi (US Patent 6,545,767).

Regarding claim 8, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fails to teach wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches a policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses (i.e. IP address used as distinction code in column 3, line 45) on a local area network (i.e. number 400 in Fig. 1).

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network printing applications.

Regarding claim 9, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain (designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fails to teach the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches the policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a predefined group of identifiable users (i.e. as shown in Fig. 6, each group has at least one user.)

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group

as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network

printing applications.

Regarding claim 20, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control

module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a

printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain

(designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fail to teach

wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local

area network.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches a policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a

predefined portion of network node addresses (i.e. IP address used as distinction code in column

3, line 45) on a local area network (i.e. number 400 in Fig. 1) .

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-

established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system

of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group

as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network

printing applications.

Regarding claim 21, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control

module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a

printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain

(designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fails to teach the

policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches the policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a

predefined group of identifiable users (i.e. as shown in Fig. 6, each group has at least one user.)

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-

established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system

of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group

as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network

printing applications.

Regarding claim 32, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control

module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a

printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain

(designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fails to teach

wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local

area network.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches a policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a

predefined portion of network node addresses (i.e. IP address used as distinction code in column

3, line 45) on a local area network (i.e. number 400 in Fig. 1) .

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-

established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system

of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group

as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network

printing applications.

Regarding claim 33, Tanimoto'280 in view of Slick'568 teach the printer access control

module (i.e. designating unit in column 3, line 9; number 3 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) within a

printer (number 2 in Tanimoto'280 Fig.1) that is operable to determine the policy domain

(designated clients or designated jobs, in Tanimoto'280 column 2, line 12), but fails to teach the

policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

Kuroyanagi'767 teaches the policy domain (i.e. Group ID in Fig. 5 and 6) comprises a

predefined group of identifiable users (i.e. as shown in Fig. 6, each group has at least one user.)

Having a system of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference and then given the well-

established teaching of Kuroyanagi'767 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the network printing system

of Tanimoto'280 and Slick'568 reference to include giving keys to members of a specific group

as taught by Kuroyanagi'767 reference because of the increasing need for secure network

printing applications.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to LAWRENCE E. WILLS whose telephone number is (571)270-

3145. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

LEW
April 14, 2008